ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

New River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Pleasant Hill Church, Fayette County, Ala.,

October 10, 12 and 13, 1891.

OFFICERS.

G. W. GRAVLEE, Moderator.....Newtonville, Ala.
ZACK SAVAGE, Clerk.....Newtonville, "
W. F. BAKER, Treasurer.....Fayette C. H., "
J. F. WILLIS, Corresponding Sec'y.....Fayette C. H., "

The next session will be held with Pilgrim's Rest Church, on Tuesday before the third Sunday in October, 1892.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
THE ALABAMA PRINTING COMPANY.
1891.

MINUTES.

OCTOBER, 10, 1891.

The New River Baptist Association met with Pleasant Hill church. Elder J. F. Willis delivered the introductory sermon from Deut. 1st chapter, 2nd clause of 21st verse.

After refreshments the Association was called to order by the former moderator, Elder J. B. Ferguson, and after devotional exercises, called for letters from the churches. Appointed Brothers W. F. Baker and A. N. Reeves to read letters. Read letters and enrolled name of delegates. (See Statistical Table.)

Went into election of officers, Elders W. C. Wood, S. M. Waldrop and Brother William Killingsworth acting as tellers. The election resulted in the choice of Elder G. W. Gravlee, Moderator; Zach Savage, Clerk; Elder J. F. Willis, Corresponding Secretary; W. F. Baker, treasurer.

Gave opportunity for churches to join this association, when delegates with petitionary letter from Philadelphia came forward, were received and given the right hand of fellowship.

Appointed the following committees:

On Devotion—Samuel Stevens, James Ballard and deacons of Pleasant Hill church.

On Temperance—J. S. Shirley, G. H. White and W. M. Olive.

On Education—W. G. Baker, A. N. Reeves, Zach Savage and W. F. Baker.

On Literature—G. S. Townsend, M. W. Olive and T. J. Godfrey.

On Finance—G. W. Freeman, H. Davis and W. B. Dobbs.

On Sabbath Schools—Elder J. Taylor, G. H. White and L. B. Harbin.

On Arrangements—Zach Savage, Elder W. J. Akin and F. M. Lowrey.

On Documents—Elder J. F. Willis, A. J. Reeves, W. J. Akin and J. S. Shirley.

On Nominations—W. F. Nichols, J. S. Hollingsworth, A. M. Guin and W. A. Vice.

Called for correspondence, when Elder J. M. Waller, assistant correspondent of the State Mission Board was received.

From Yellow Creek Association—Elders S. M. Waldrop, W. C. Woods and Brothers C. D. Stewart, O. L. Corbit, W. D. Hankins and E. B. Guin.

On motion, Brother William Killingsworth, from North River Association, was received without letter.

From Sipsey Association—Elder J. B. Ferguson.

All were received and welcomed.

Called for reports from the districts, when the following reports were submitted:

FROM THE FIRST DISTRICT.

Convened with Salem church, Tuskaloosa county, at the appointed time. The next district meeting to be held with Rocky Mount church, beginning on Friday before the first Sabbath in September, 1892; Elder J. W. Hosmer to preach the introductory sermon. Elder Frank Wilson, alternate. First subject for discussion: "What is the Design of Baptism?" Opened by L. C. Shirley and G. H. White. Second subject: "Is it Right for Baptists to In-

vite Ministers of Other Denominations to Preach in Our Pulpits?" Opened by R. W. Woods and J. H. McGuire. The next session of the New River Association to be held with Pilgrim's Rest church. Elder J. W. Hosmer, Moderator; G. C. Shirley, Clerk.

Adopted.

FROM THE SECOND DISTRICT.

The Second District met with Philadelphia church on Friday before the third Sunday in August, 1891. Located the next session with Union church, Marion county, at Gu'n, on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1892. Elder W. G. Baker to preach the introductory sermon; Elder D. W. Dickinson, alternate.

First question for Friday evening: "What is the Relation of Baptism to Salvation?" Opened by J. P. Dickinson. Second question: "Does God Save a Soul Here, or Does He Bring It into a Savable State?' Opened by J. S. Shirley. Third question: "Should Christians Obey Gospel Requirements in Order to be Saved?" Opened by I. Estell.

J. P. Dickinson, Moderator; W. F. Gilpin, Clerk.

P. S.—Is there any difference between the Kingdom of God and the Gospel Church, and if so, what? By request of the district.

Report adopted.

On motion, adjourned until 8:30 o'clock Monday morning.

Prayer by Elder J. B. Ferguson.

SABBATH SERVICES.

Sabbath school mass meeting at 9:30 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. by Elder J. B. Ferguson, followed by Elder J. M. Waller. Took up collection of $32.70 for missions.

Preaching at night by Elders W. C. Wood and S. M. Waldrop.

MONDAY, Oct. 12.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder J. M. Waller. Called for report of Committee on Arrangements.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS.

We, your Committee on Arrangements, beg to make the following report:

1—Call for unfinished business.
2—Call for report of Committee on Temperance.
3—Call for report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.
4—Call for report of Committee on Documents.
5—Call for report of Committee on Education.
6—Call for report of Committee on Denominational Schools.
7—Call for report of Committee on Ministerial Education.
8—Call for report of Committee on Nominations.
9—Call for report of Treasurer.
10—Call for report of Mission Board.
11—Call for report of Committee on Finance.
12—Call for Miscellaneous Business.

Respectfully submitted,

Zach Savage, Chairman.

Called for unfinished business.

Called for report of Committee on Literature, when the following report was received and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE.

We, your Committee on Literature, beg leave to submit the following report:

We would heartily recommend to the churches of this association and all reading people the following papers, namely: The Alabama Baptist, being the organ of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, and, as we believe, a true exponent of Bible doctrine; The Home Field, The State Mission Quarterly and The Foreign Mission Journal, as giving needed information on the subject of missions generally. To our Sunday schools we recommend Kind Words, believing it to be good and sound help for Bible study. We also recommend the Western Recorder and Texas Baptist and Herald as able exponents of the Holy Scriptures.

J. S. Townsend,
M. W. Olive,
Committee.

Called for report of the Committee on Temperance, when the following was received and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

The use of intoxicants as a beverage is still on the decrease in our churches, though some church members still participate in dram-drinking. We urge such to abandon that evil practice. Let all, especially Baptists, be temperate in all things, as the Lord has commanded.

J. S. Shirley, Chairman.

Called for report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools, when the following was received and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, ask to make the following report:

We notice, in reading the letters from the churches composing this association, that there are but nine Sabbath schools reported, which shows that the study of the Bible is neglected to a great extent. We recommend that each church organize a Sabbath school, and that we be more earnest in this great work.

J. Taylor, Chairman.

Adjourned for preaching by Elder J. M. Waller.

One hour's recess for dinner.

At 1:30 p. m. reassembled. Prayer by Brother A. N. Reeves.

Called for report on Documents, when the following was submitted and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee on Documents, ask leave to submit the following report:

We have examined the letters from the various churches and find that there have been ninety-seven baptized. We recommend that the churches send up a definite number of those received by experience and baptism or otherwise. We also find a failure on the part of the churches to send any reports in regard to Home and Foreign Missions. We find in the letter from Elbethel a request that each church send up to the association in her letter the date of and number of members in their constitution. We recom-

mend that the association grant the request of said church. We also find a query sent by the Second District meeting which we think this body has no authority to entertain or deal with.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. Willis, Chairman.

Called for report from the Committee on Education, when the following was submitted and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Your committee would report that, seeing the rapid development of the natural resources of our country, should stimulate us to prepare ourselves and our children as citizens to bear our part in such enterprises; but when we take into consideration the great effort that is being made by an irreligious influence to capture the intellectual powers of our people, we as Christians, should use all our powers to obtain for ourselves and our children a true and correct education, which cannot be obtained from ungodly or irreligious teachers. We therefore would most earnestly recommend our people to employ only such teachers as have established a strict Christian character, in our common schools, and for a higher education send their children to our denominational schools, such as the Howard, for boys; and the Central and Judson for girls.

Respectfully submitted,

W. G. Baker, Chairman.

Suspended regular order of business and received Bro. Bradley from North River Association.

Called for report from committee on Denominational School. Passed till morning. Called for report from committee on Ministerial Education, when the following was received and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee ask to report that there has been nothing done by your committee during the past year, we knowing of no brother asking assistance from the association. We were, at the last session of the association, instructed to expend $8.00 for books for H. T. Wright. This we have not done, he having been excluded from his church. This leaves on hand $8.00, the disposition of which we refer to your body

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. Gravlee, Chairman.

Granted leave of absence to Brothers W. F. Baker, J. R. Skelton, J. M. Shaw and S. Candler and P. M. Candler.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock Tuesday morning.

October, 13.

Met at 8:25 a. m., and after prayer by Brother M. W. Olive, called for report of committee on Nominations, when the following was submitted and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee report that Elder W. G. Baker preach the introductory sermon at next session, Elder W. J. Akin alternate; Elder G. W. Gravlee to preach at 11 o'clock a. m. on second day of the session, Elder J. P. Dickinson alternate. Mission Board: J. H. McGuire, W. B. Melton, J S. Hol-

lingsworth and G. H. White. Committee on Ministerial Education: G. W. Gravlee, G. W. Freeman and J. P. Dickinson.

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. NICHOLS, Chairman.

Report adopted.

Called for report of Treasurer.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the New River Baptist Association now in session:

Your Treasurer would submit the following report:

Received from Ex-Treasurer	$ 9 75	
Received from Finance Committee	38 30	
Received for Associational purposes	16 40	
Received for Foreign Missions	2 60	
Received for Indigent Ministers	2 75	
Total	$69 80	
Paid to Missionary Q. D. Haney		$ 9 75
Paid to Clerk		16 40
Paid for Minutes		25 00
Total		$51 15
Balance on hand	$18 65	

I now ask to be discharged.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. MELTON, Treasurer.

Returned correspondence:

To North River Association—Elder G. W. Gravlee, M. W. Olive, G. H. White and W. M. Olive.

To Yellow Creek Association—Elder J. F. Willis, A. N. Reeves, D. W. Dickinson and D. A. J. Canterberry.

To Sipsey Association—Elders G. W. Gravlee and J. F. Willis, and Brothers G. W. McGinnis, W. A. Vice and Zach Savage.

To Tuskaloosa Association—Elder G. W. Gravlee, L. C. Shirley and W. M. Olive.

To State Convention—Elders W. G. Baker and J. E. Cox, and Brothers J. H. McGuire and R. W. Woods.

To Southern Baptist Convention—Elder J. F. Willis, Elder W. G. Baker, alternate.

Called for letter of correspondence, when the following was read and adopted:

LETTER OF CORRESPONDENCE.

The New River Baptist Association, to her Sister Associations, with whom she corresponds, greeting:

We are now in session, and harmony and peace prevails thus far. Your correspondents were gladly received and we are benefited by their presence. Our next session will be held with Pilgrim's Rest church, seven miles south of Fayette C. H., on Tuesday after the second Sunday in October, 1892, when and where we hope to meet your correspondents, and with whom we shall be glad to meet and work and worship in the Master's vineyard.

J. F. WILLIS,
Corresponding Secretary.

On motion, limited speeches to ten minutes, except Brother Waller's; allowed him thirty minutes. Called for report of the Mission Board, when the following was submitted and adopted:

REPORT OF THE MISSION BOARD.

We employed Elder J. M. Chism to preach in the destitute parts of this association for the space of one month, or until the association met, to begin work as soon as he could arrange after the first day of August, 1891. We agreed to pay him for said services, and we think that twenty-five dollars will remunerate him for the work. Ten dollars were paid by Unity church.

L. C. SHIRLEY,
W. F. BAKER,
A. J. REEVES.

MISSIONARY'S REPORT, OFFERED IN CONNECTION WITH REPORT OF THE BOARD.

To the New River Association:—

Dear Brethren:—Under the appointment of your Board, I commenced travelling and preaching on the 15th day of August, 1891, and labored until the 31st day of August, 1891, making seventeen days; I travelled 110 miles, preached 25 sermons, offered 32 prayers, visited 35 families, visited 2 sick families; conversions 12, baptized 7, was in and helped conduct 18 prayer meetings. Owing to a severe rising that pained me much, I had to return home to my churches. I did not get where I intended to go; one reason was I failed to get the letter Bro. L C. Shirley wrote me of my appointments in due time, and the paper in which my appointments were published, so I will say, owing to the shortness of time that I was in the field, I did the best service I could, and so far as I could see, the people want preaching, for the field is white for harvesting. For further information I refer you to the Board. Your unworthy servant,

J. M. CHISM, Missionary.

Collected $15.10 to pay missionary.

Suspended regular order of business to consider matter of missions as proposed by the State Mission Board.

Accepted proposition and elected Elder W. J. Akin, missionary.

Called for report of Committee on Finance, when the following report was read and adopted:

Your Committee beg leave to report as follows:

From the different churches for minutes	$30 65
From the different churches for associational purposes	13 85
From the different churches for foreign missions	3 00
From the different churches for home missions	4 00
Total	$51 50

G. W. FREEMAN, Chairman.

Called for report on denominational school, and in the absence of the Chairman, statement was made, and on motion the committee continued.

Called for miscellaneous business, when the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Moderator appoint a committee of three whose duty it shall be to present in writing the references showing the proof-texts establishing each article of our faith, and report the same at our next meeting.

Appointed Bro. A. N. Reeves, Elds. W. G. Baker and J. F. Willis.

Resolved, That moneys now in the hands of the Treasurer be paid to our Mission Board to be forwarded to the State Board.

Resolved, That we tender to Pleasant Hill church and vicinity our heartfelt thanks for hospitality and kindness shown us during the present session.

Resolved, That there be committees appointed on Temperance, Education and Missions.

Appointed the following brethren on—

Temperance—Elds. J. F. Willis, Frank Willis, J. S. Townsend.
Education—Elds. W. G. Baker, J. E. Cox, C. M. South.
Missions—L. C. Shirley, G. H. White, W. F. Baker.

Resolved, That this Association meet on Tuesday before the third Sunday in October, 1892

Resolved, That the Clerk be authorized to have 800 copies of our minutes printed wherever he can get it done best and cheapest, and that he have $10.00 out of the Associational fund for his services, and that he reserve money enough of the Associational funds to pay postage on minutes to the various churches.

On motion, gave Bro. Bradley fifteen minutes to address the body on the Centennial movement.

On motion, read, corrected and approved minutes.

On motion, adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Bradley.

G. W. GRAVLEE, MODERATOR.

ZACH SAVAGE, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

FIRST DISTRICT.

G. W. Gravlee ..... Newtonville.
Frank Wilson ..... Fayette C. H.
J. J. Patterson ..... Ridge.
W. J. Akin ..... Stough.
J. R. Barnett ..... Samantha.
J. S White ..... Ridge.

SECOND DISTRICT.

J. W. McGaha ..... Winfield.
J. S. Townsend ..... Handy.
J. E. Cox ..... Fayette C. H.
J. F. Willis ..... Fayette C. H.
G. I. Sanford ..... New River.
A. N. Reeves ..... Winfield.
W. P. Jenkins ..... Handy.
W. G. Baker ..... Bankston.
W. J. Blankenship ..... Ballard.
J. S. Shirley ....

LICENSED MINISTERS.

FIRST DISTRICT.

G. W. Freeman ..... Talula.
M. W. Olive ..... Bankston.
L. C. Shirley ..... Ridge.

SECOND DISTRICT.

D. W. Dickinson ..... Winfield.
J. L. Harbin ..... Berry.
G. W. McGinnis ..... Bankston.
D. A. J. Canterberry ..... Winfield.
B. T. Silman ..... New River.
T. B. Newton ..... Handy.
W. A. Huckabee ..... Winfield.
J. W. Graham ..... Newtonville.

STATISTICS OF NEW RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1891.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS AND POST-OFFICE.	CLERK AND POST-OFFICE.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Sunday Meetings.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Restored.	Deceased.	Present Membership.	Minute Fund.	Associational Fund	Home Missions.	State Missions.	Foreign Missions.
FIRST DISTRICT.																
Arbor Springs	N. O. Dobbs	J. W. Falls, Samantha	J. I. Freeman, J. R. Skelton, G. W. Roe	.....	5	1	3	4	1	.....	43	$ 1 00	$ 45	$.....	$ 4 00	$ 3 00
Bankston	W. G. Baker, Bankston	J. W. Woods, Bankston		.....	.....	1	3	.....	.....	8	32	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Concord	J. M. Chism, Kenedy	W. B. Melton, Davis Creek	M. W. Olive, W. M. Olive	4	11	1	14	7	1	1	175	1 00	65	.....	.....	.....
Fayetteville		F. A. Nuckols, Fayette C. H.	W. F. Baker	1	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	46	1 00	1 50	.....	.....	.....
Meadow Branch	S. M. Waldrop, Coda	N. L. Trull, Airo	A. M. Gain	2	.....	.....	3	2	.....	.....	25	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Pleasant	G. W. Gravlee, Newtonville	W. F. Nichols, Mona	W. J. Akin, W. F. Nichols, G. H. White	1	3	4	3	1	.....	2	101	2 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Pilgrim's Rest	Frank Wilson, Fayette C. H.	J. A. Freeman, Pilgrim	H. Davis, J. A. Freeman	2	7	.....	5	1	.....	1	82	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Rocky Mount	J. F. Willis, Talula	W. S. Bobo, Talla	G. W. Freeman, W. C. Monasco	4	3	7	8	.....	.....	.....	57	1 00	50	1 00	.....	.....
Salem	Wm. Ashcraft, Kenedy	W. F. Dawson, New Lexington		3	.....	.....	7	3	.....	2	47	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Shepherd		W. J. Johnson, Newtonville	G. W. Gravlee, W. A. Vice	3	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	48	1 50	50	.....	.....	.....
Sipsey Valley	W. J. Akin, Mona		Zach Savage	1	.....	.....	10	1	.....	.....	33	40	20	.....	.....	.....
Shady Grove	J. J. Patterson, Ridge	A. B. Lowry, Bankston	A. Ray, A. B. Lowry	1	5	5	2	1	3	.....	87	1 50	50	.....	.....	.....
SECOND DISTRICT.																
Elbethel	J. P. Dickinson, Fayette C. H.	C. W. Edmonds, Fayette C. H.	J. F. Dickinson	1	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	1 50	50	.....	.....	.....
Friendship	W. J. Blankinship, Ballard	J. H. Mehary, Ballard	G. W. Hubbert, P. W. White	3	.....	1	2	2	.....	1	93	1 50	50	.....	.....	.....
Harmony Grove	R. Colborn, Eldridge	D. I. Meads, Winfield	D. A. J. Canterbery, T. J. Perry	.....	1	9	10	2	2	1	46	1 00	30	.....	.....	.....
Hopewell				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Unity	N. J. Dyer, Ballard	J. F. Reeves, Ballard	J. S. Shirley, A. J. Reeves, H. T. Shirley	4	7	1	3	.....	2	.....	71	1 50	1 00	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Lebanon	J. F. Willis, Fayette C. H.	I. N. Collins, Fayette C. H.	J. W. Ballinger, J. F. Willis	1	2	.....	.....	3	.....	2	56	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Pisgah	W. G. Baker, Bankston	F. M. Lowrey, Bankston	W. G. Baker	2	.....	.....	3	2	.....	.....	35	75	25	.....	.....	.....
New Hope	J. W. Peters, Winfield	A. H. Franks, Winfield	J. M. Shirey	.....	16	6	10	1	1	1	56	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Oak Grove	A. W. Green, Guin	W. A. Weeks, Winfield	W. H. Week, R. A. Berryhill	2	2	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	45	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Pleasant Hill	J. E. Cox, Fayette, C. H.	W. T. Newton, Fayette C. H.	L. B. Harbin, R. M. Roberts, E. B. Newton	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46	1 50	50	.....	.....	.....
Pleasant Grove	W. J. Akin, Slough	G. W. McGinnis, Bankston	Samuel Stevens, J. H. Brasher, G. W. McGinnis	3	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	75	25	.....	.....	.....
Philadelphia	W. G. Baker, Bankston	J. S. Townsend, Handy	J. S. Townsend, W. B. Dobbs, I. B. Deavors	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	70	50	.....	.....	.....
Siloam	J. E. Bernard, Winfield	R. H. Erwin, Winfield	J. Taylor, J. W. Ward, J. Berryhill	3	9	6	7	3	.....	1	58	1 50	50	.....	.....	.....
Union, F. Co.	J. S. Shirley, Fayette C. H.	J. S. Hollingsworth, New River	J. S. Hollingsworth, J. W. R. Jones, G. L. Wade	3	.....	6	.....	1	.....	1	20	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Union, M. Co	J. W. Peters	J. A. Shaw	J. M. Shaw, S. and P. M. Caudle	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	109	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....
Winfield	J. W. McGaha, Winfield	M. C. Bowling, Winfield	A. N. Reeves, D. W. Dickinson	2	2	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	51	1 00	25	.....	.....	.....
Total																

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